

MANUAL

OF THE

Congregational Church,

WEST BROOKFIELD, MASS.,

CONTAINING

A Brief History of its Church, Sunday School, Y. P. S. C. E., Ministers, Deacons, Ministers and Missionaries gone out from the Church, with the Articles of Faith and Covenant of the Church, Standing Rules and List of its Members, etc.

This Manual was revised and published by vote of the Church, at its annual meeting, Dec. 30th, 1891.

BENSON M. FRINK, PASTOR.

A. G. BLODGETT, M. D.,
M. W. SHERMAN,
C. T. HUNTINGTON,
EDWARD WILBUR,

DEA. CURTIS GILBERT,
DEA. HENRY WILKINS,
DEA. AUSTIN FRANK WOODS,
DEA. CALVIN E. GILBERT,

COMMITTEE ON PUBLICATION.

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HISTORICAL SKETCH.

NOTE:—All the historic matter concerning this church is the same as published in the Manual of 1876, compiled from "Foot's Historical Discourse."

In collecting the following materials, various difficulties have been encountered. No records kept by the town previous to 1675 have come down to us. Of those which commence in 1687, some were destroyed by the burning of the clerk's office; and the rest, excepting such as relate to the last forty or fifty years, are so impaired and mutilated that it is difficult to obtain from them even a general view of the progress of the town. The records of the Church, if any had been kept previous to 1755, were destroyed or lost more than fifty years ago. As this was an insulated settlement, its early history cannot be learned from the records of the towns by which it is now surrounded.

The first meeting-house in Brookfield stood on Foster's Hill, about half a mile south-east of the present meeting-house in West Brookfield. It was on the north side of the old road to the South Parish, about equally distant from the house of Mr. Baxter Barnes and that of Mr. Tyler Marsh.

The place in which the people met during the thirty years which elapsed after their return from dispersion by the Indians, and before the building of the second meeting-house, cannot now be ascer-

tained. From the constant exposure to the irruptions of the Indians, it is probable that, according to the customs of insulated settlements at that time, they met in a fortified place. As Gilbert's Fort was in the centre of the settlement, it is not unlikely that for many years the inhabitants assembled there for public worship. For a few years previous to the building of the second meeting-house it seems quite probable that they met in a house which stood nearly opposite the residence of Mr. Baxter Barnes. A building, called the Town House, stood in that place, and after the completion of the second meeting-house, was given to the Rev. Mr. Cheney, on the condition that he would release the town from that part of their contract in which they had agreed to build him a house.

The second meeting-house was built on the ground where the first had stood. The records of the town with the doings of the Committee thereon will give a distinct view of the house, and illustrate the circumstances in which the work was undertaken:

“November 22, 1715. The inhabitants of Brookfield agreed, by the consent of the Committee, to build a meeting-house wherein to carry on the worship of God; in form and manner as followeth, viz.: 45 feet in length, 35 feet in width; and to put in gallery pieces so that they may build galleries when they shall have occasion; and to carry on the building the said house as far as they can con-

veniently with their labors, and what shall be required in money for the carrying said work to be raised by a town rate, and if any person or persons refuse to labor, having suitable warning by the Committee hereafter mentioned, they shall pay their proportion in money. The inhabitants likewise agree to get the timber this winter."

"The Committee unanimously agree that the inhabitants build a meeting-house wherein to attend the worship of God, which shall be set up and erected in said place where formerly the meeting-house was built, near old John Ayres' house lot, lying near about the centre of the town.

"The third meeting-house was built in 1755, and stood on the place which the present meeting-house occupies. It was 45 feet in length and 35 in breadth. In 1794 it was removed and appropriated to the use of parish and town meetings.

"The present meeting-house was raised in 1794, and completed the next year. Length of the house, including the west porch, 80 feet; length of the body, 65 feet; breadth, 55. It was dedicated November 10, 1795. In 1838, 43 years from the time of its being built, the present meeting-house was entirely remodeled. It was wheeled round to a right angle with its former position, and carried back about a rod in the rear of its original site. An addition was made on each side of the old porch, the extent of the building; making the length 80 feet, the breadth 52 feet. A steeple was erected instead of the former cupola, 92 feet in

height, and bore the vane which was on the old meeting-house. A projection of six feet, with four pillars, was added in front. Beneath the building a new basement story was formed, 65 feet in length, 52 in width, which was divided into two apartments; one for a vestry, the other for a town-hall. By sliding-doors the two could be thrown together whenever occasion so required. The house was dedicated January 1, 1839. Rev. Mr. Winslow, of Boston, preached the dedication sermon.

“The old house was appraised at \$1,488. The cost of the new, including the chandelier, stoves and other incidental expenses, was \$5,488. The pews sold for more than the appraised value, \$1,165. The cost of finishing vestry and town-hall, \$300.

“At a meeting of the inhabitants of Brookfield, on April the 5th, 17¹⁶ 1816. Voted, that Thomas Barnes be moderator for said day. Voted, that Edward Walker, senior, Joseph Banister and Elisha Rice, do further discourse Mr. Cheney, as to his proposals in order to settlement in said place to carry on the work of the ministry. Having considered Mr. Cheney's proposals, the inhabitants voted to give Mr. Cheney for his salary fifty-two pounds yearly for three years, and to rise forty shillings a year until it comes to seventy pounds, and there to stay. Secondly. Voted, that Mr. Cheney have all the land that the Committee propose to give him. Thirdly. Voted to build him a house and barn according to the direction he has

given; Mr. Cheney providing glass and nails and iron. Fourthly. Voted to break up, and fence in, and fit to sow, eight acres of land; four acres upon the hill, two acres to be planted out with orcharding this year, and four acres to be broke up on the plain this year, the other two acres to be done within four years. Fifthly. Voted to get Mr. Cheney twenty-five cords of wood yearly his lifetime. Sixthly. Voted to give Mr. Cheney each man one day's work yearly for six years, his house and barn to be built in four years, always provided Mr. Cheney be our ordained minister."

Errata 1.

The church that was repaired in 1838, was burned Feb. 28th, 1881. The present edifice was completed at a cost of \$22,032, and dedicated free of debt, Sept. 5th, 1882.

July 16, 1717. At a meeting of the inhabitants of Brookfield. Voted, the third Wednesday in October next is appointed and set apart for Mr. Cheney's ordination. Voted, that the town celebrate and set apart a day of fasting and prayer to implore God's presence with us in this solemn and weighty matter, which day is left to Mr. Cheney to appoint. Full and clear votes.

REV. THOMAS CHENEY was graduated at Harvard College, 1711. He is described as an acceptable preacher, and as sustaining the character of a good man and faithful pastor. He died December 11,

1747, aged 57. During his ministry, the Rev. George Whitefield passed through the town. Many of the people were desirous of hearing him; but Mr. Cheney was exceedingly reluctant. He had heard the calumnies which were circulated against this man of God, and feared that the tendency of his visit would be to produce irregularity. At length, however, he consented that the meeting-house should be opened. By this time so many people were collected that the house would not contain them, and the meeting was held in a field north-west of the house now owned by Mr. D. H. Richardson. The rock on which Mr. Whitefield is supposed to have stood during his sermon is often pointed out with pleasure. His labors were instrumental of exciting the attention and of inducing some of his hearers to work out their salvation with fear and trembling. A revival ensued, of which Mr. Cheney was an active promoter. Many were added to the Church. Of these none now remain. The last subject of this work of grace died in 1819, aged 100 years and 7 months.

CONFESSION OF FAITH.

In the presence of God and these witnesses you now appear to make a declaration of your religious faith, to dedicate yourself to the service of the Lord Jesus Christ, and to enter into covenant with this Church.

You will now attend to the Confession of Faith and Covenant.

ARTICLE I. You believe that there is but one God, the Creator, Preserver and Moral Governor of the universe. A being of infinite power, knowledge, wisdom, goodness, justice and truth.

Ps. xlix : 1-3. Rom. i : 19, 20. Is. lv : 9. Gen. xvii : 1. John i : 1
2 Cor. xiii : 14.

2. You believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by inspiration of God, and that they contain a perfect revelation of his mind and will.

2 Tim. iii : 16. Heb. i : 1, 2. 2 Pet. i : 20, 21. 1 Cor. ii : 13. Gal. i : 11, 12. Rev. i : 1, 2.

3. You believe that the Godhead exists in the three-fold character of Father, Son

and Holy Ghost; one in essence, equal in power and in glory.

Mat. xviii : 19. 2 Cor. xiii : 14. 1 Jn. v : 7. Jn. i : 1-5. Ac. v : 3, 4.

4. You believe that man was at first created in a state of rectitude and holiness; and that he fell from that state by eating the forbidden fruit.

Rom. v : 12. Rom. iii : 10-12. Jn. iii : 5, 6. Rom. viii : 7.

5. You believe that, in consequence of the first transgression, the heart of man is by nature destitute of holiness, and must be regenerated and sanctified by the Holy Ghost in order to salvation.

Rom. v : 12. Jn. iii : 5, 6.

6. You believe that the obedience, sufferings and death of Christ have made a full and complete atonement for sin; and that now salvation is offered as a free gift to all; but that those only will obtain salvation who seek it by "repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ."

Phil. ii : 8. Rom. iii : 25, 26. Jn. iii : 16. Eph. i : 7. Luke xxiv : 46, 47.

7. You believe that all those who do thus obtain salvation will be kept by the mighty power of God through faith unto salvation.

Heb. vii : 25. Rom. viii : 38, 39. Phil. i : 6. Jn. vi : 37-40. Jn. x : 27-29.

8. You believe that there will be a resurrection and a final judgment, when all shall receive a sentence of retribution according to their works, and that the happiness of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked will be eternal.

Jn. v : 28, 29. 1 Cor. xv.

9. You believe that the sacraments, baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances instituted by Christ; that believers and their households are entitled to the ordinance of baptism; but believers only to the ordinance of the supper.

Mat. xxviii : 19. Tit. iii : 5. Ac. xvi : 31, 33. 1 Cor. xi : 23-25.

Do you cordially give your assent to these articles of faith as being a summary of the doctrines of grace, taught us in the Word of God ?

Those who have not been baptized here receive the ordinance of baptism.

COVENANT.

You do now, in the presence of the Great and Holy God, the elect angels, and this assembly of witnesses, enter into a solemn and perpetual covenant, never to be forgotten, never to be broken.

You sincerely and cordially give up yourself to that God whose name alone is Jehovah; taking God the Father to be your God and Father, God the Son to be your only Saviour and Redeemer, God the Holy Ghost to be your Sanctifier and Comforter.

You submit yourself to Christ, and accept him as the Prophet, Priest and King of your souls, the Great Head of the Church, and the only mediator of the covenant of grace; promising that, by the assistance of the Holy Spirit, you will keep the covenant of the Lord inviolably; that you will cleave to the Lord Jesus Christ by faith and gospel obedience; and will endeavor to reform your life as to all known sin, whether open or secret; will live in the conscientious discharge of all duty toward God and man; walking in all the commandments and ordinances of the

Lord blamelessly; that you will endeavor that the inward temper of your mind be conformed to God's will and word; and that you will follow the example which Christ has set you for the rule of your life.

You also give up yourself to this Church in the Lord; and freely covenant and bind yourself to walk as a regular member of Christ's Church; to obey them that have rule over you in the Lord; to read God's Word, and to live in the practice of *social and secret* prayer, and in diligent attendance on the Word preached and ordinances administered; and relying on the grace and all-sufficiency of Christ, which are sufficient for you, you promise to walk according to what you know, or shall know, to be your duty.

Do you sincerely and cordially, each of you, consent to the Covenant now proposed?

We, then, (the members of the Church please rise,) receive you as a sincere disciple of Christ, and a member of the same Church with ourselves, promising, so long as God shall continue you among us, to watch over you with meekness and brotherly love; and may the Lord add to the numbers and graces of his Church, and finally bring us all to join the general assembly and Church of the first-born, whose names are written in heaven. AMEN.

SELF-COMMUNION.

2 Corinthians xiii, 5. Rom. xii.

Do I *feel the claims* of my holy covenant,—my solemn vows?

Do I pray in secret, in my family, and prayerfully open the Word of God *every day*?

Am I living in any *known sin*, or in the neglect of any *known duty*?

Am I *sacredly honest* in all business dealings—*punctual in time*; prompt in performing all promises?

Do I *speak the truth always*—in the fear of God?

Have I *inordinate appetites*, or *passions*, which I do not govern, but which govern me?

Do I "*remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy*"?

Do I bear my part in maintaining Divine ordinances, and in sending the gospel to the needy?

What *proportion* of my income and worldly goods do I set apart and actually give to Him who gave His life for me?

Am I growing *more*, or becoming *less*,

like Christ? caring and doing *more* for the souls of men, or caring or doing *less*? growing more *worldly*, or more *heavenly* minded? *more* or *less* the servant of God,—the disciple of Jesus Christ,—and am I *more* or *less* prepared to *die* and meet Him in judgment?

"Search me, O God, and know my heart; try me and know my thoughts; and see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting."—Psalm cxxxix. 23, 24.

MINISTERS FROM THE CHURCH AND PARISH.

Enos Hitchcock, born 1774.
Joshua Crowell, September 15, 1777.
Asa Kent, May 9, 1780.
Charles Gilbert, March 12, 1778.
Caleb Sprague Henry, August 2, 1804.
Lucius Watson Clark, July 2, 1801.
John C. Nichols, November 17, 1801.
Sewall Lamberton, August 6, 1818.
Solomon B. Gilbert, January 21, 1811.
William B. Bond, January 12, 1815.
Josiah Addison Carey, March 29, 1813.
William B. Stone, January 21, 1811.
Austin Phelps, January 7, 1820.
Nathaniel Spear, September 4, 1814.
Harrison Otis Howland, January 25, 1813.
William Ware Howland, February 2, 1817.
Edwin Gilbert, February 11, 1824.
Joshua M. Chamberlain, October 4, 1825.
Edward Payson Thwing, August 25, 1830.
Leander T. Chamberlain, September 26, 1837.
Charles L. Tomblen, June 24, 1848.

MISSIONARIES FROM THE CHURCH.

Daniel T. Chamberlain went to the Sandwich Islands with his wife and four children, with the first company of missionaries; leaving Boston October 23, 1819, and remaining five years.

Miss Adeline White, daughter of Deacon Alfred White, sailed for Singapore, Siam, July 4, 1834, where she married Rev. Ira Tracy, June 15, 1835. She returned to this country August, 1841. Died March 3, 1851.

Miss Sarah G. White, daughter of Deacon Alfred White, married Rev. Asa B. Smith, March 15, 1838, and

left on a mission to the Oregon Indians the same day. With her husband, she made the journey to Oregon on horseback, escorted by Indian traders. The journey was one of great danger and hardship. After a few years of service in Oregon, they went to the Sandwich Islands; and on account of Mr. Smith's health, returned, by way of China, in 1846, to this country. She died May 27, 1855.

William Ware Howland, son of Southworth and Mary (Ware) Howland, was born Feb. 25, 1817. He was graduated at Amherst College in 1841, and at Union Seminary, New York, in 1845. In the same year he sailed from Boston as a missionary to Ceylon under the auspices of the A. B. C. F. M. From that time until his death, some six years ago, he was stationed at Batticotta. Letters from him frequently appeared in the columns of the Missionary Herald.

Rev. Samuel Ware Bonney received an appointment as missionary of the A. B. C. F. M., 1846, and began his labors in Canton, China, where he labored till removed by death, July 27, 1864.

Miss Florence White, daughter of Samuel N. White, and grand-daughter of Dea. Alfred White, under appointment of the A. B. C. F. M. sailed for Japan, Jan., 1888. She had charge of the Doshisha Girls School at Kioto. In the summer of 1891 she was obliged to return to this country on account of ill-health. In Nov., 1892, she resumed missionary work under the Am. Board, in Guadalajara, Mexico, where she is at present.

Miss Laura A. Giddings, daughter of Chandler and Wealthy (Gleason) Giddings, has been for the past ten years a popular and successful city missionary in Worcester.

PASTORS.

1667.	Rev. John Younglove.	1674.
	Rev. Joseph Smith.	
	Rev. George Phillips.	
1701.		1702.
	Rev. William Grosvenor.	
1705.		1708.
	Rev. John James.	
1711.		1714.
	Rev. David Elmer.	
1714.		1715.
	Rev. Thomas Cheney.	
Ordained, Oct. 16, 1717.		Died Dec. 11, 1747.
	Rev. Elisha Harding.	
Ordained, Sept. 13, 1749.		Dis., May 8, 1755.
	Rev. Joseph Parsons.	
Ordained, Nov. 23, 1757.		Died Jan. 17, 1771.
	Rev. Ephraim Ward.	
Ordained, Oct. 23, 1771.		Died Feb. 9, 1818.
	Rev. Eliakim Phelps.	
Ordained Oct. 23, 1816.		Dis., Oct. 25, 1826.
	Rev. Joseph I. Foot.	
Ordained, Oct. 25, 1826.		Dis., May 1, 1832.
	Rev. Francis Horton.	
Installed, Aug. 25, 1832.		Dis., Sept. 15, 1841.
	Rev. Moses Chace.	
Installed, Jan. 12, 1842.		Dis., Oct. 27, 1843.
	Rev. Leonard S. Parker.	
Installed, Dec. 19, 1844.		Dis., April 7, 1851.
	Rev. Swift Byington.	
Ordained, Nov. 17, 1852.		Dis., Nov. 1, 1858.
	Rev. C. M. Cordley.	
Installed, June 28, 1859.		Dis., June 23, 1861.
	Rev. Samuel Dunham	
Ordained, Oct. 4, 1864.		Dis., Oct. 27, 1870.

Rev. Richard B. Bull.

Installed, March 12, 1871.

Dis., July 6, 1874.

Without stated supply until

Rev. E. S. Gould.

Began labors, March, 1877. Closed labors, April 7, 1881.

Rev. T. E. Babb.

Began labors, June 3, 1883. Closed labors, Nov. 23, 1889.

Rev. B. M. Frink.

Began labors, Dec. 8, 1889.

DEACONS.

Henry Gilbert.

Elected Dec. 14, 1721.

Died Aug. 17, 1740.

John Gilbert.

Elected May 14, 1758.

Res., Oct. 14, 1767.

Joseph Jennings.

Elected Dec. 14, 1721.

Died June 12, 1779.

Comfort Barnes.

Died Jan. 17, 1748.

John Cutler.

No record given.

Jedediah Foster.

Elected Oct. 18, 1759.

Res., Dec. 12, 1776.

Thaddeus Cutler.

Elected Mar. 13, 1763.

Res., Sept. 20, 1767.

Othual Gilbert.

Elected Oct. 14, 1767.

Res., Nov., 1788.

Thomas Rich.

Elected Oct. 14, 1767.

Res., Feb. 16, 1803.

Joseph Cutler.

Elected Oct. 9, 1776.

Res., June 20, 1809.

Levi Gilbert.

Elected Dec. 11, 1788.

Died Apr. 5, 1816.

Samuel Barnes.

Elected June 20, 1809.

Res., Nov. 10, 1819.

John Ross.	
Elected June 20, 1809.	Res., Nov. 27, 1828.
Nathan B. Ellis.	
Elected July 3, 1816.	Died Sept. 6, 1819.
John Wood.	
Elected Nov. 10, 1819.	Res., Mar. 14, 1832.
Josiah Carey.	
Elected Nov. 10, 1819.	Res., Mar. 14, 1832.
Alfred White.	
Elected Nov. 10, 1819.	Died June 15, 1874.
William Spooner.	
Elected Nov. 27, 1828.	Res., Apr. 7, 1833.
Reuben Blair, Jr.	
Elected Jan. 27, 1833.	Died Aug. 2, 1859.
Jairus Abbott.	
Elected Jan. 27, 1833.	Res., May 12, 1834.
Josiah Henshaw.	
Elected Jan. 27, 1833.	Res., Jan. 26, 1843.
Baxter Ellis.	
Elected June 16, 1845.	Res., June 5, 1851.
Jacob Dupee.	
Elected June 16, 1845.	Res., Nov. 15, 1863.
Liberty Sampson.	
Elected June 16, 1845.	Died Oct. 15, 1858.
Solomon L. Barnes.	
Elected Nov., 1854.	Died May 1, 1874.
Moses Hall.	
Elected Nov., 1854.	Res., Apr. 9, 1863.
Re-elected Nov. 1, 1867.	Res., Jan. 2, 1874.
S. N. White.	
Elected July 1, 1859.	Res., Feb. 1, 1867.
Enos Gilbert.	
Elected Apr. 21, 1865.	Res., Sept. 16, 1874.
Calvin E. Gilbert.	
Elected Dec. 31, 1868.	Res., Sept. 16, 1874.
Re-elected Jan. 2, 1875, for 4 years.	

Joseph S. Gleason.

Elected Jan. 2, 1875, for 3 years.

George W. Bliss.

Elected Jan. 2, 1875, for 2 years.

Elkanah S. Penniman.

Elected Jan. 2, 1875, for 1 year.

Re-elected Jan. 1, 1876, for 4 years.

Joel G. Bruce.

Elected Jan. 6, 1877, for 4 years.

J. S. Gleason.

Re-elected Jan. 4, 1878, for 4 years.

D. J. Young.

Elected Jan. 3, 1879, for 4 years.

E. S. Penniman.

Re-elected Mar. 5, 1880, for 4 years.

Curtis Gilbert.

Elected Dec. 24, 1880, for 4 years.

J. S. Gleason.

Re-elected Jan. 4, 1882, for 4 years.

D. J. Young.

Re-elected Jan. 5, 1883, for 4 years.

E. S. Penniman.

Re-elected Jan. 4, 1884, for 4 years. Died Sept. 30, 1884.

A. F. Woods.

Elected Jan. 4, 1884, to fill unexpired term D. J. Young.

Curtis Gilbert.

Re-elected Jan. 2, 1885, for 4 years.

J. G. Bruce.

Re-elected Jan. 2, 1885, for 3 years.

J. S. Gleason.

Re-elected Jan. 1, 1886, for 4 years. Died Dec. 27, 1889.

A. F. Woods.

Re-elected Dec. 31, 1886, for 4 years.

C. E. Gilbert.

Re-elected April 5, 1883, for 4 years.

Curtis Gilbert.

Re-elected Jan. 4, 1889, for 4 years.

Henry Wilkins.

Elected Jan. 1, 1890, for 4 years.

A. F. Woods.

Re-elected Dec. 31, 1890, for 4 years.

E. C. Gilbert.

Re-elected Dec. 30, 1891, for 4 years.

Curtis Gilbert.

Re-elected Dec. 28, 1892, for 4 years.

SUNDAY SCHOOL.

The Sunday School connected with this church was organized by a few individuals during the interval of divine service on the Sabbath, in 1817. During the next year the number increased to 70, and in the spring of 1819 there were 180. From that time to the present the school has been in successful operation. In 1821 the name of Dea. Josiah Carey appears as the first Superintendent, and from that date to 1860 there are no records, but from various sources it has been learned that the following persons served at some time as Superintendents: Col. J. M. Fisk, Dea. J. Wood, Dea. A. White, Dea. J. Henshaw, Geo. H. Gilbert, Dea. J. Dupree, Dea. S. Barnes, Dea. G. Bliss, Dea. C. E. Gilbert, S. H. Gilbert, A. C. Gleason.

For a number of years the school was continued only through the summer. In its earliest years it encountered no little opposition; it was almost wholly a new enterprise in this country, and this was the first school in this part of Massachusetts. A strong prejudice existed against it, and it commenced with a load of odium upon it; several of the good Christian people of this place "were very much opposed to it as a desecration of the Sabbath," and it was not until after two or three seasons of successful operation had shown the people what the practical "working of the thing was," that

some, "even of the church, would let their children attend." It has long since come to be a popular institution, and is reported as the hope of the church. From 1860 the records are more complete, and the following have served as Superintendents: Dea. S. N. White, 1860-61 and 1880; Dea. Moses Hall, 1867 and 1869; A. C. Gleason, 1868; Dr. A. G. Blodgett, 1870-71; J. E. Bailey, 1872-75 and 1881; Frank Farron, 1876; C. E. Smith, 1877-78; I. N. Jones, 1879; Herbert B. Lynde, 1880; Dea. Curtis Gilbert, 1882-83; Rev. T. E. Babb, 1884-89; Dea. A. F. Woods, 1890-92; A. H. Warfield, 1893.

HISTORY OF THE Y. P. S. C. E.

On the 23d of October, 1888, the Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor was fully organized, composed very largely of those who had been active in the support of the young people's prayer meeting. The following names appear upon the records as the first to form the organization: Rev. T. E. Babb, Dea. Curtis Gilbert, the Misses Cora L. Blair, Emily A. Babb, Hattie R. Crowell, Nellie E. Foster, Ida R. Giddings, Carrie A. Smith, Belle Weeden, Alice J. White, Stella Thompson, Carrie Thompson, Mr. Henry J. Weeden, Mr. John M. Fales, Mr. Windsor Smith, Mr. Charles E. Smith.

The first president elected was Dea. Curtis Gilbert who served for three terms of six months each, after which the following: Miss Isabel P. Morey, elected May 6, 1890, and served one term; Miss Hattie R. Crowell, elected Nov. 18, 1890, and served two terms; Miss Tammie Foster, elected Nov. 10, 1891, and served two terms; Mr. A. H. Warfield, elected Nov. 9, 1892, and served one term; Miss Etta Dodge, elected May 10, 1893, who is still in office.

This society has proved its loyalty to its pledge, rendered great and efficient service to the pastor, and

developed the higher life and spiritual character of the young people. In 1892, by the advice and direction of the pastor, a Junior Society was formed, and under the influence of efficient leaders from the Senior Society the children have made progress in self-culture, active effort in doing good, and expressing clear evidences of their love for Christ, who said, "Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me; for of such is the kingdom of heaven."

PRESENT MEMBERSHIP.

Name.	Date.
Ainsworth, Emery R.,	L January, 1836.
Allen, Mrs. Sarah A.,	P November, 1864.
Aiken, Mrs. Frances S.,	" July, 1867.
Allen, Mrs. Lucia A.,	" " "
Allen, Mrs. Mary M.,	" May, 1871.
Ainsworth, Mrs. Clarissa A.,	L August, 1877.
Allen, Mrs. Amanda P.,	" July, 1882.
Allen, Miss Eva M.,	P July, 1889.
Adams, Mrs. Martha J.,	L December, 1891.
Barnes, Mrs. Rebecca,	P January, 1835.
Bliss, Miss Mary A.,	" May, 1835.
Bruce, Joel G.,	" March, 1839.
Bruce, Mrs. Martha A. G.,	" " "
Barnes, Miss Lydia F.,	" November, 1845.
Bliss, John,	" September, 1854.
Barrett, Mrs. Seluria W.,	" January, 1858.
Blair, Warren A.,	" January, 1865.
Blair, Mrs. Mary F.,	" " "
Bliss, Albert W.,	" June, 1867.
Brown, Mrs. Mary A. L.,	" July, 1867.
Baker, Mrs. Carrie H.	" " "
Bemis, Mrs. Wealthy A.,	" November, 1867.
Bailey, J. E.,	" May, 1868.
Bailey, Mrs. Louisa,	" " "
Blodgett, Mrs. Caroline A.,	" " "
Buxton, Miss Ella,	" August, 1869.
Byerley, Mrs. Mary,	" May, 1871.
Blodgett, A. G.,	L " "
Brown, Mrs. Julia,	" August, 1877.
Brown, Alexander,	" " "
Blair, Miss Mariana,	P September, 1877.
Buxton, Mrs. H.,	L January, 1880.

Name.	Date.
Blair, Miss Cora L.,	L January, 1881.
Blair, Miss Grace,	P September, 1886.
Bliss, Mrs. Belinda,	L September, 1887.
Blodgett, Miss Carrie E.,	P July, 1888.
Burdick, Miss Mabel A.,	" July, 1889.
Burdick, William H.,	L August, 1889.
Burdick, Mrs. Anna L.,	" August, 1889.
Barnes, Miss Lillian E.,	P September, 1889.
Bullard, Mrs. Julia R.,	L December, 1892.
Combs, Mrs. Jane L.,	P September, 1848.
Cook, Mrs. Mariah E.,	L January, 1863.
Crowell, Miss Harriet R.,	P May, 1887.
Crowell, Mrs. Harriet H.,	" January, 1878.
Cady, William,	L March, 1881.
Cook, William E.,	P March, 1886.
Carruth, Mrs. Clara L.,	" July, 1887.
Clark, Miss Lizzie,	" July, 1889.
Clark, Cyreneus,	L December, 1891.
Clark, Mrs. Helen M.,	" " "
Cummings, Mrs. Ann Eliza,	" July, 1867.
Durkee, Mrs. Eunice,	P July, 1867.
Dodge, Miss Marietta,	" July, 1889.
Dodge, Miss Estella,	" " "
Dodge, Mrs. Carrie E.,	" September, 1889.
Edson, Miss Fannie M.,	" January, 1886.
Edson, Miss Carrie K.,	" " "
Elwell, Mrs. Arvilla,	L May, 1891.
Fullam, Mrs. Susan F.,	P October, 1857.
Forbes, Geo. F.,	L January, 1862.
Forbes, Mrs. Adelia M.,	" " "
Fales, Francis T.,	P March, 1867.
Fales, Mrs. Laurinda T.,	" November, 1867.
Foster, Miss Mary P.,	L August, 1877.
Foster, Miss Nellie Etta,	P January, 1881.
Forbes, Miss Hattie M.,	L April, 1881.
Foster, Miss Myrtle Belle,	P September, 1884.

Name.		Date.
Fales, John M.,	P	March, 1887.
Follansbee, Miss Marian,	L	November, 1891.
Gilbert, Enos,	P	March, 1839.
Gilbert, Mrs. Eliza C.,	L	July, 1843.
Gilbert, Mrs. Jane L.,	"	May, 1846.
Gleason, Abner C.,	"	October, 1846.
Gilbert, Calvin E.,	P	March, 1848.
Gleason, Spencer W.,	"	March, 1854.
Gleason, Mrs. Mary A.,	"	April, 1858.
Gilbert, Miss Jerusha M.,	"	July, 1855.
Gleason, Mrs. Lucy A.,	"	March, 1864.
Gleason, Miss Ann Eliza C.,	"	November, 1864.
Gilbert, Curtis,	"	" "
Gilbert, Mrs. Harriet,	"	July, 1865.
Giffin, Anson,	"	May, 1867.
Giffin, Mrs. Abbie C.,	"	May, 1867.
Glazier, Mrs. Susan E.,	"	July, 1867.
Giddings, Miss Ida R.,	"	" "
Gilbert, Zabina A.,	"	" "
Gilbert, Dexter,	"	" "
Gilbert, Mrs. Elizabeth,	L	September, 1870.
Gould, Mrs. Nellie S.,	P	March, 1877.
Gilbert, Mrs. Elizabeth W.,	L	August, 1877.
Green, Mrs. Hattie L.,	P	September, 1877.
Gilbert, Alfred Warren,	"	May, 1878.
Gilbert, Mrs. Hannah Ella,	"	" "
Gould, Mrs. Fannie L.,	L	January, 1880.
Gilbert, Mrs. Sarah J.,	"	December, 1881.
Gilbert, Hollis C.,	P	January, 1886.
Gilbert, Miss Florence,	"	July, 1889.
Giddings, Miss Clara C.,	L	November, 1889.
Grant, Mrs. Ella M.,	"	August, 1893.
Hammond, Mrs. Emily,	"	May, 1867.
Hunt, Edmund Z.,	P	July, 1867.
Hunt, Mrs. Frances,	"	" "
Howard, George H.,	L	September, 1872.

Name.	Date.
Howard, Mrs. Emma L.,	L September, 1872.
Huntington, Charles T.,	" September, 1876.
Huntington, Mrs. Sarah W.,	" " "
Holmes, Philander,	" April, 1877.
Holt, Miss Mary Jennie,	P May, 1877.
Holmes, Mrs. Jane E.,	" January, 1878.
Henshaw, Charles B.	" September, 1889.
Henshaw, David F.,	" " "
Hayden, Mrs. Harriet E.,	L August, 1889.
Hayden, Miss Nellie L.,	P September, 1889.
Holt, Mrs. Lucy C.	L
Jones, Mrs. Mary Ella.	P November, 1864.
Jones, Isaac N.,	" May, 1878.
Johnson, Mrs. Hattie A.,	L January, 1880.
Kendrick, Mrs. Caroline E.,	P November, 1864.
Keep, Mrs. Almira C.,	L January, 1865.
Knowlton, Miss Jennie,	P September, 1886.
Lynde, Mrs. Minerva J.,	" March, 1855.
Lynde, Ebenezer B.,	" July, 1867.
Lynde, Herbert B.,	" May, 1871.
Lynde, Nathaniel W.,	" " "
Livermore, Arthur H.,	" September, 1877.
Lynde, Miss Mary F.,	" September, 1888.
Lyman, Mrs. Mary Sabin,	L September, 1892.
Morey, Mrs. Lucy A.,	P May, 1835.
Merriam, Miss Antoinette,	" July, 1858.
Miller, Mrs. Mary,	L November, 1864.
Makepeace, Mrs. Harriet,	" July, 1867.
Minot, Miss Ellen M.,	P " "
Morey, Miss Isabel P.,	" " "
Mather, Miss Katy,	" May, 1868.
Makepeace, Mrs. Arvilla S.,	" July, 1868.
Miller, Mrs. Catherine,	" July, 1877.
Morse, Mrs. Carrie E.,	" May, 1889.
Makepeace, Miss Ella E.,	" September, 1889.
Olmstead, Miss Jennie C.,	L March, 1884.

Eame.		Date.
Parratt, Mrs. Harriet A.,	P	March, 1859.
Page, Mrs. Rebecca,	"	April, 1858.
Prouty, Charles R.,	"	May, 1878.
Pierce, Mandley,	L	April, 1881.
Pierce, Mrs. Sarah W.,	"	January, 1891.
Reed, Charles C.,	P	March, 1839.
Richards, Mrs. Antoinette E.,	L	May, 1856.
Reed, Miss Ida E.,	P	November, 1864.
Rose, Mrs. Fanny W.,	"	July, 1867.
Richardson, Mrs. Lizzie M.,	"	September, 1883.
Reed, Mrs. Cynthia G.,	L	September, 1886.
Richards, Miss Alice,	P	May, 1889.
Richardson, Myron A.,	"	July, 1889.
Rice, Miss Cora E.,	L	" "
Reed, Sumner H.,	"	February, 1890.
Reed, Mrs. Clara H.,	"	" "
Round, Miss Martha H.,	"	August, 1893.
Stebbins, David S.,	"	May, 1845.
Spooner, Thomas,	P	April, 1858.
Spooner, Mrs. Sarah S.,	"	" "
Smith, Mrs. Ruth Tyler,	"	May, 1860.
Shackley, Mrs. Ella P.,	"	June, 1865.
Southworth, Ira M.,	L	May, 1867.
Southworth, Mrs. Hulda,	"	" "
Stone, Mrs. Mary J.,	P	" "
Smith, Charles E.,	"	July, 1867.
Smith, Mrs. Lucy A.,	"	" "
Sibley, Mrs. Julia,	"	" "
Sherman, Myron W.,	"	May, 1873.
Sherman, Mrs. Ella M.,	L	" "
Soule, Henry M.,	P	May, 1877.
Stebbins, Mrs. Lydia E.,	L	April, 1881.
Spooner, Miss Hattie S.,	P	July, 1883.
Spooner, Miss B. M.,	"	" "
Smith, Miss Carrie A.,	"	" "
Smith, Winsor R.,	"	November, 1885.

Name.		Date.
Smith, William E.,	P	January, 1886.
Spooner, Miss Mabel A.,	"	January, 1886.
Smith, Frederic G.,	"	March, 1889.
Stone, Mrs. Ida M.,	"	May, 1889.
Sands, Miss Esther L.,	"	" "
Slocomb, Mrs. Carrie,	L	January, 1890.
Thompson, Francis W.,	P	January, 1839.
Thompson, Mrs. Harriet A.,	"	September, 1861.
Thompson, Amory J.,	"	May, 1867.
Thompson, Mrs. Pauline E. T.,	L	September, 1871.
Thompson, Mrs. Emma J.,	P	April, 1881.
Thompson, Mrs. Mary R.,	L	July, 1882.
Tyler, Isaac S.,	"	" "
Thompson, Miss Estella O.,	P	March, 1888.
Torrey, Mrs. Mary A.,	L	August, 1888.
Thompson, Miss Carrie E.,	P	July, 1889.
Thompson, Arthur E.,	"	November, 1889.
Thompson, Mrs. Sarah,	L	April, 1891.
White, Samuel N.,	P	May, 1835.
White, Mrs. Harriet N.,	"	September, 1841.
White, Miss Alice J.,	"	January, 1865.
Wetherbee, Miss Mary Rice,	"	July, 1867.
Wood, Mrs. Josephine,	"	May, 1871.
Wilkins, Henry,	L	February, 1873.
Weeden, Miss Lucy Bell,	P	May, 1877.
White, Miss Helen M.,	"	" "
Woods, Mrs. Charlotte,	L	" "
Woods, Austin Frank,	"	" "
Woods, Miss Emily S.,	"	" "
Wilbur, Edwin,	"	May, 1878.
Woodis, Mrs. Harriet E.,	"	October, 1887.
Wilson, Mrs. Sarah A.,	"	January, 1888.
White, Miss Grace C.,	P	March, 1888.
Wilkins, Mrs. Adaline,	L	March, 1889.
Wilbur, Miss Lottie E.,	P	July, 1889.
Wilbur, Miss Grace D.,	"	" "
Weaver, Miss Charlotte A.,	"	" "
Warfield, Arthur H.,	L	March, 1891.
Warfield, Mrs. Frances R.,	"	" "

THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
IN WEST BROOKFIELD, MASS.

To the Church
in

Reverend and Beloved:

This certifies that
is a member of this Church in good and regular stand-
ing, at own request dismissed and
recommended to your Christian care and fellowship.
When received by you membership with
us will cease.

By order of the Church,

Errata 2.

Buxton, Henry,	L	1880.
Fales, Mrs. Esther,	L	May 3, 1873.
Giffin, Frank,	P	1887.
Livermore, Mrs. Harriet F.	L	Sept. 5, 1857.
Wilbur, Miss Lucy,	P	Mar. 5, 1893.

THE Church

in

To the Congregational Church in West Brookfield,
Mass.

Reverend and Beloved:

This certifies that

..... received as member of this Church on
the day of 189

Attest:

..... CLERK.

..... 189

STANDING RULES.

I.

The annual meeting of this church shall be held on the Wednesday preceding the first Sabbath in January.

II.

Any weekly meeting may be a business meeting by a request from any member of the church.

III.

At the annual meeting of this church there shall be presented reports from the Clerk and Treasurer of the church and all organizations connected therewith.

IV.

At the annual meeting of the church the following officers shall be elected: Clerk, Treasurer, Auditor, one Deacon to serve four years, the Standing Committee of the church, and all the officers of the Sunday School. The Clerk, Treasurer, Auditor, Deacon and Sunday School Superintendent shall be elected by ballot.

DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS.

1.

To the Pastor pertains the office of Moderator.

2.

The Clerk shall keep the records and attend to the correspondence of the church.

3.

The Treasurer shall receive all moneys contributed and intrusted to the church by gift or legacy, invest the same as directed by the Standing Committee of the church acting as a Board of Trustees, and disburse the same as the church shall direct, upon an order signed by a majority of the Standing Committee.

4.

The Auditor shall examine the Treasurer's annual account, with the vouchers, etc., and approve or not approve the report as presented.

5.

It shall be the duty of the Deacons to preside, in the absence of the Pastor, in rotation, to assist in administering the Sacraments of the church, and aid the Pastor in every interest of the church and parish.

6.

The Standing Committee shall consist of nine; the Pastor, Deacons, Clerk, and three chosen from the church. They shall examine all candidates for admission to the church, shall determine to what objects the church shall contribute, shall have charge of all meetings of the church in the absence of the Pastor, and shall co-operate with him in all things for the spiritual welfare of the congregation.

7.

The officers chosen for the Sunday School shall perform the duties pertaining to their office.

ADMISSION OF MEMBERS.

V.

All persons desiring to unite with this church by profession of their faith in Christ shall be examined by the Standing Committee, and, if approved, shall be propounded to the church at least two weeks before the preparatory lecture, and, if elected, they may be received on the following Sabbath by assenting to the Articles of Faith and Covenant, and receiving the ordinance of Baptism.

VI.

Persons wishing to unite by letter, shall present the same to the Standing Committee, who may make further inquiry concerning their religious life, if it be deemed advisable; but in all cases they shall be made acquainted with the Creed and Covenant, and assent thereto.

DISMISSION.

VII.

Letters of dismission will be granted to those removing to other places, directed to the church indicated in the application, but shall not be valid after six months. Their relation with this church will not cease until it is notified that its letter has been presented and accepted.

VIII.

Members removing from town are requested to transfer their relation to some Evangelical church which they may desire to attend, within one year

after such removal, unless there are special reasons for the delay. If any person shall fail to make such application, or to give satisfactory reasons for delay, for three years, their names shall be placed upon the list of absentees; at the end of five years, if no such application or explanation be made for their absence from the Communion of the church, fellowship may be withdrawn and their names erased from the roll of membership, due effort having been made to hold them in Christian fellowship.

IX.

It is the desire of this church that all members of other Evangelical churches, who may desire to commune with us for more than one year, will request a dismission from their respective churches, and unite with this, unless there are satisfactory reasons for such delay.

THE SACRAMENTS.

X.

The ordinance of the Lord's Supper is to be administered in this church on the first Sabbath of each alternating month, commencing with January.

XI.

The ordinance of Baptism may be administered to children one or both of whose parents are members of the church, at any service of the church, or in the home, as may be most desirable.

AMENDMENT.

XII.

No alteration shall be made to these Standing Rules except by a vote of two-thirds of the members present and voting, at a meeting duly called for that purpose.

XIII.

Any of these rules may be suspended temporarily, by a vote of two-thirds of the members present and voting, at any meeting of the church duly called.

XIV.

All rules for the government of this church, election of its officers and defining their duty, now on the records of this church, are abrogated by the adoption of these.

